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1 (Pages 1 to 4)

We're concerned that the EIS scoping process

make it known that while we appreciate the

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or comment period was extended. We were advised that that was due to receiving input from the state and the counties but the same opportunity was not granted to the tribes, so that's what out justification would be for extending the comment period.

We believe that an advanced copy of the EIS should be provided to the CGTO and the respective tribal governments to ensure that we have ample opportunity to review the document.

The group here also supports the language and intent of the Ruby Valley Treaty of 1863 and recommends that the proposed rail corridor not cross through any lands identified therein.

I believe that concludes the collective comments of the group, so at this time I'll pass it on to one of the folks here.

CALVIN MEYERS: My name is Calvin Meyers. I'm a member of the Moapa Band of Paiutes. These are my thoughts and my thoughts alone. The tribal council will formulate some thoughts and send them to you and hopefully they will be implemented.

One of my thoughts is that right now the tribe would like to become a cooperating agency in the writing of the EIS.

Another thought is trust responsibility.

1 their wing, such as what has happened with the Las

2 Vegas Indian Center. Because as you go along in the

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3 history of the project, you don't have to be a real

4 tribal government to be able to do that, so I would

like to see you do that with them.

And I guess lastly what I would like to comment on is that it's hard to make comments at a scoping meeting when you don't know what's out there or what's really being looked at. For instance, I would like to see a document that I could look at and make comments to, because that shows me, well, I can tell you, well, you're not doing enough or you're doing just right. Those types of things I can't do because I haven't seen those.

And my last comment will be that consultation, this meeting is not in any way, form or shape to be construed as consultation to the Moapa Band of Paiutes. Consultation to the Moapa Band of Paiutes is speaking to the tribal council. And that's all that I will say for right now. Thank you.

ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

WILFRED NABAHE: My name is Wilfred J.

23 Nabahe. That's N-a-b-a-h-e. I'm a descendent of the

24 Western Shoshone Nation and a member of Lone Pine

5 Paiute-Shoshone Reservation. I'm speaking only my

Page 6

When is the Department of Energy, Yucca Mountain project going to live up to their trust responsibility to the Moana Band of Paintes and any

responsibility to the Moapa Band of Paiutes and any other tribe?

Another thought is that there was a study done by a man called Paul Nickens. I would like to see that study and where it has gone. From what I understand it was written but it was put on the shelf somewhere. I would like to look at it because I think that will give us better insight into this rail line that DOE was talking about.

My fourth idea is comprehensive study such as the one that was done for the Department of Energy, the Nevada Test Site low level radioactive waste study that the tribes have done. To me that was comprehensive. It was better than what the Department of Energy got from their consultant who they paid \$300,000 to and got a 20-page document, and they gave us a hundred thousand dollars for ten days and we did a heck of a lot better document then they did.

Another thing that, another thought is that there's a group of Paiutes that live in Caliente. I would like to see the Department of Energy do some kind of consultation with them and bring them under 1 thoughts alone.2 I'd like to

I'd like to reiterate that I believe this is not consultation with the governments, and that DOE needs to reflect their trust responsibilities to the governments. It's not happening. And within their trust responsibility they need to realize the lack of manpower, resources and staff that the tribal governments have and to make a more effective outreach to those governments.

Again, not knowing much of where precisely, other than the maps shown to me today, where the corridor is going through, wherever the proposed corridor goes through, wherever it goes through there needs to be a well-documented detailed cultural resource assessment of those lands before they're destroyed. Thank you.

ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

DORENA MARTINEAU: My name is Dorena Martineau, and I'm from the Southern Paiute Band in Cedar City, Utah.

I agree with a lot of these people. I'm fairly new here so I haven't really been out there, and I agree to it, I don't think this is really consultation either. And I think it needs to be spread out to other tribes and the other nations that

2 (Pages 5 to 8)

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are involved. I think it needs to be sent out to them too so that there could be more involvement, and, you know, they can be aware like you were talking about earlier.

You know, a lot of people out there, they don't really know about what's going on, and it needs to be spread out so that, you know, everyone else can be aware of all this stuff. There isn't really, you know, that much, you know, spread out that people would know about. But, anyway, these are my thoughts, and that's all I have to say. Thank you.

ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you. ELEANOR TOM: My name is Eleanor Tom. I'm a Southern Paiute from Cedar City Band. I'm a cultural representative for our band, for the City Band of Paiutes. And I really don't have too much to say, but I do agree with a lot of the things that's been said here around the table here. And that's all.

19 Thank you. 20 ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you. DARLENE HOOPER DEWEY: I'm Darlene Hooper 21 22 Dewey, and I'm a great granddaughter of Captain

24 And I don't agree with what's happening here, but I don't know too much about it, but I'm

Page 11 PAULINE ESTEVES: I'm Pauline Esteves of the

Timbisha Shoshone people and the Western Shoshone

3 Nation. 4 I oppose the land withdrawn of BLM and 5 others for the railway for the transportation of high

level nuclear waste to the Yucca Mountain. The 6 Timbisha Trust lands at Scotty's Junction should not

8 be used for this railway. Also the land is of the 9 Western Shoshone lands under the Treaty of Ruby

Valley recognized by the United States of America as 10

11 the law of the land. Also, the people of the

Shoshone Nation is responsible to protect all life 12 13 within all of the Native American Nations and others.

14 I stand with the group of Consolidated

15 Tribes and Organization's recommendation to speak as one unit. The tribal government should be consulted

16 17 and go further into negotiations as a state of its 18

own nation. DOE needs a liaison to do the initial contact with the tribal governments. An education is 19 20

needed before negotiations after the consultation.

21 Thank you. 22

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ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

23 LALOVI MILLER: Lalovi Miller from the Moapa

Band of Paiutes. I support all of the comments that

has been said at this time. Thank you. 25

Page 10

concerned about our water. What's happening with the water now is we have a shortage of water. And what's going to happen after we have this stored

4 underground, what's going to happen with our water for our people? And that's my concern. 5

ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

GRACE GOAD: I'm Grace Goad from Timbisha Shoshone, Death Valley, California.

It's pretty serious all this going on, the rail coming through, coming through our little parcel that's by Scotty's Junction and also through other places through the reservations. I don't think that it should come through there. They'd have to find another way, or, I don't know. But to me it's not right because we don't have no -- the wildlife will be -- there will be no wildlife. Our plants will be gone, and our people. The air, it's bad, as it is already.

19 Nobody consulted us about this rail coming 20 through the little parcel that we have up there at 21 Scotty's Junction. And why not? Why didn't they let us know ahead of time? We never knew anything about 22

23 it. It's been quiet. And I don't think that's

24 right. That is all I have to say. 25 ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you. ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

JERRY CHARLES: My name is Jerry Charles. 2 3 I'm from the Ely Shoshone tribe. This is my personal comment. I oppose the Yucca Mountain project and I 5 think somewhere along the line this rail is going to

have a disaster. Thank you. 6 7

ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

8 JOE KENNEDY: I'm Joe Kennedy, Timbisha Shoshone people of the Western Shoshone Nation. I have a lot of concerns and I'm going to speak on my 10 11 own behalf.

One of the big concerns I have is the Ruby Valley Treaty that is being trampled upon. That was, you know, supposed to be the law of the land, and it's not being honored. I think the United States government has an obligation to Native American people to work with them in working out these problems here.

I very much oppose Yucca Mountain with the nuclear waste and storage in the mountain because of its potential to disaster and for how long it has to be stored there for over 10,000 years that it will be hot. My concern is that those things are going to leak in time and that they're going to pollute the

water systems. So that is a big concern. 25

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And if accidents happen along these railways, it's not only going to affect Indian people, it's going to affect anybody else that's near these areas. I think this country has the technology and it can go forward with alternate energy sources, such as clean energy.

I believe in nuclear energy, but 92,000 miles away, and that being the sun. And I say that we can use that energy and all the money that's been put into this project in digging this big hole into Mother Earth, that money could have been used scientifically to do something else with this hot, potentially dangerous substance.

So I believe that something should be done, and the United States has an obligation to lead the rest of the world in the right direction, because this country uses one-third of the energy of the world, so this country should lead the way.

19 And speaking for all the people here, I 20 don't know if I can, or I won't attempt to, but I 21 think the government has an obligation to the Indian 22 people to sit down and work out on an equal level 23 playing field.

24 If you look at the past of the treatment of 25 Native Americans, it's wrong. It's racially,

have the information to go by. And that's all I have.

3 ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

4 JOE KENNEDY: I also wanted to add that it's

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5 not a consultation also, that I agree with Maurice

6 and I agree with Calvin that it does need to go

7 before the rest of the people. So it does need to go 8 in front of the Western Shoshone Nation as a whole

and not just going to individual tribes or what have 10 vou.

11 KENNY ANDERSON: My name is Kenny Anderson.

I'm with the Las Vegas Painte Tribe. I'm a tribal 12 13

member. I'm the tribal cultural representative, and

14 I'm here to represent them, but as a representative I

15 can only talk about what we just talked about. We

need to have an actual meeting with the tribal 17 council so they would understand, like I've heard

18 through the day.

19 And as myself, and I'm sure the whole 20 council would probably agree, that we oppose the

21 storage of nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain. For 22 years and years they were testing, and all that

23 nuclear waste that went into the air went and, you

24 know, killed a lot of the Southern Paiute people in

25 Southern Nevada, Southern Utah. All our tribe has

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discriminatory. I think it's about time for a

change. And I see the time is now to work in a 2

positive way for all people, and not only the people 3

4 but those little plants, those little animals that

5 are out there that don't have a voice, just as we

didn't have a voice many years ago. So we're here to

speak for those animals, those plants and that 7

mountain, because somebody must think about the

9 future and think what's best for this planet. Thank

10 you. 11

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ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

MAURICE FRANK-CHURCHILL: My name is Maurice

Frank-Churchill. I'm here on behalf of the Duckwater Tribe.

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And my comments really I guess are directed 16 in regard for their protection more or less or their concerns because what I see, as Richard talked

earlier, is that we need another extra 90 days to do 18

19 this formal consultation.

20 The Duckwater tribe has not been in the

21 dialog or the negotiation process. There's no

government-to-government relationship established. 22

And in order for them to make a sound decision on 23

behalf of the tribe and their people, they need to 24

have information. And as we also sit here we don't

been devastated by all this disease through this

nuclear waste. And so we're going to put more

nuclear waste in those mountains and who knows what 3

4 could happen. Nobody really knows.

5 And I'd like to talk about if once this rail

line goes through, there's areas up I know near the 6 7 Hiko area, Paranagut Valley area, there's a lot of

8 petroglyph panels through that area. What happens

when you actually pick a site, how close are you

going to go to those petroglyphs? And what happens

11 if you do go through one, are you just going to tear

12 it down or is it going to be -- is the whole line

13 going to be moved right or left, I don't know.

14 And like I said, we need to meet with our

15 tribal council so they could actually have a look at

16 it and make a comment on it too.

And I think that was basically it. The

18 people, the Southern Painte people have been

devastated by this nuclear waste. A lot of people

have died. We used to have a lot of people in this

21 area. They're not here no more because of all the

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diseases. So that's my saying. 23

ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

24 ATEF ELZEFTAWY: My name is Atef Elzeftawy,

and I work for the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe. Kenny

4 (Pages 13 to 16)

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Page 17

Anderson before me spoke quite well. This comment is really my personal comment, however, I think it probably presents the feeling of most of the tribes I know of.

The cultural resources of this tribe and the other tribes around in this area I think needs to be looked at and looked at very carefully. And I'm glad that Kenny mentioned that, because one of those petroglyphs that he has on his business card is actually over there next to the White River Narrows that I saw in 1982, and I have a picture of it.

When this thing goes down the drain for one reason or another, being born and raised in Egypt for 15, 16 years I certainly don't want to see somebody do something and destroy the pyramids. Regardless of what benefit the people now will have surrounding those pyramids, those pyramids tell us that there was a culture back there.

Department of Energy to realize that having 300
square miles taken out from the public land at this
time is not, and I will repeat, withdrawing the land
for the Nevada Test Site back in 1950. We have to
learn from the mistakes this federal government does
on a daily basis. Something has to do here.

And something has to happen within the

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The security is very important, because if something goes wrong, who is going to take care of the adverse impact on this particular spot on this particular land? Derailment happens every day in the United States. We see it all over the place. So this railroad has to be a hundred percent secure, a hundred percent watchable. Use the best technology to address it. I don't know how much it's going to cost, but you guys need to figure it out.

So I addressed the cultural resources. You guys need to address and address it in detail not just to gloss it over please.

I said something about the security. And
I'm going to say the last point is please, it's about
time for the Department of Energy or the Secretary of
the Department of Energy to get his legs or feet, I
don't want to say the other word, to come here and at
least have a meeting in a room like this with the
chair people of the affected, quote/unquote, Native
American tribes.

If that man does not come here to address that issue and to see the people face to face, it's just a slap on the face. Can you imagine how degradable that is if somebody comes and slaps you on the face or spits in your face or just comes after

Page 18

Something has to happen here considering the culture of the Native Americans.

And I just made a little tiny calculation here. If we think that one acre will be sold for \$10,000, this 300 square miles would bring about three and a half trillion dollars. So maybe the Department of Energy needs to bring three and a half trillion dollars to give it to the Shoshone people in terms of bringing this railroad line through that land. That's just my personal feeling with regard to that.

But I think with regard to the scoping process a couple things need to be addressed, especially after 9-11. I think the security issue has to be brought up up front, and the Department of Energy needs to address that quite well, not to pass it please to the Homeland Security.

The Homeland Security is a big morass. It's like a big, huge glob of things, and I would tell that to the President of the United States in his face. If something happened today it's not only a possibility but it's a high probability that if these dumb terrorists have in mind to do something, they will do it. We have no resources. We have almost zero offense. So make believe is not a good idea.

Page 20

the whole thing and says, well, let's do it this way and that way? That's just not — I mean, we know better than that. We treat our men and our women equally regardless of race, so let us practice what we preach. And I think I'm going to end on that.

ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.
GENEVE SAVALA: My name is Geneve Savala, and I'm from the Kaibab Paiute Tribe. I am in support of all these things that are being said this afternoon by all the representatives present.

My concern lies in the people who have gone and are still contracting different types of cancer due to the contamination. When will this stop? I feel something, all this contamination is our responsibility. That's all I have to say.

ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you.

ILA BULLETTS: My name is Ila Bulletts. I am with the Kaibab Band of Paiutes, Southern Paiutes, excuse me. And I agree with -- this is my own personal feeling.

Again I ask that DOE come to the tribal council and report to them, because that's where I report to. And I think that it's important to keep a government-to-government relationship with all of our Indian people, our Native Americans, and that we

5 (Pages 17 to 20)

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Page 21 Page 23 should have a liaison, if you can't do it, a liaison rail through the Western Shoshone traditional 2 person or persons, because I know there's a lot of homelands. And I reiterate what all the tribal people 3 3 people, Native American people that need to be heard. 4 And I just want to know how come it's taken 4 here have said in regards to, you know, their 5 this long to have a meeting. It's been a long time concerns, and also we support what our spokesperson 5 6 has said. Thank you. is what I've heard from the other ones. And I would 7 7 like so see it more often, maybe once every six ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you. 8 LEE CHAVEZ: My name is Lee Chavez, Bishop 8 months or even closer than that, just as long as we 9 9 Paiute, Owens Valley. know what you're doing. 10 10 And my concerns are, well, I feel you guys And again as a Southern Paiute we're located in Arizona but our people are in this area and that's haven't fulfilled your duty to contact all of the 11 11 our aboriginal territories. And so the concerns for people that may be endangered by this move. You're 12 only dealing with Nevada. And the lines of the rails 13 our people here in the Las Vegas, Moapa and the other 13 tribes that are located in the vicinity of Yucca 14 will be coming across the whole United States in 14 every direction. 15 15 Mountain is very important. And we support what, 16 And I feel it's your trust responsibility to 16 well, I support what they say, because they need to 17 be heard because of the site being so close to their 17 contact all these people. I believe there's 72 commercial sites and DOE sites, and that's a lot of 18 reservation and their lands also and their concerns. 18 19 And again I'd like to state that this is not sites, and I imagine there's going to be more. And 19 you need to contact all those people also for 20 a consultation. You have to go to our tribal 20 comments. This is only a partial job that you're 21 council, our Indian nations that make all of our 21 22 decisions for our people. doing here. This is a small percent. That's all I 23 And I would like to state that we need to 23 have to say. 24 know where this rail is going to exist in this whole 24 ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you. 25 nation so that we can help the other Native Americans 25 On behalf of DOE I'd like to thank all of Page 22 Page 24 be of support on what they think is important for you for coming here and taking time out of your very 2 busy lives to provide these comments, and I 2 them. And that's all I have to say. ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you. 3 appreciate all of them and look forward to talking to 3 4 4 LAWANDA LAFFOON: Good afternoon. My name you again. 5 is Lawanda Laffoon, Colorado River Indian Tribe, (Thereupon the proceedings 5 6 Parker, Arizona. I support the statements made by were concluded at 3:05 p.m.) 6 7 7 the CGTO spokesperson, Richard Arnold. I also 8 8 support what has been said by the rest of the members 9 9 of the CGTO. 10 10 I would like to state that I am opposed to a 11 rail alignment for the construction and operation of 11 12 a rail line for spent nuclear fuel, high level waste 12 13 and other materials from a site near Caliente to 13 Yucca Mountain. I am also opposed to a rail system 14 14 15 across tribal lands and traditional lands. And thank 15 you for this opportunity to make these statements. 16 16 17 ROBIN SWEENEY: Thank you. 17

BETTY CORNELIUS: My name is Betty

My concern is the quality of improvements.

Cornelius, and I'm with the Colorado River Indian

perpetuating. I question the right-of-way that DOE

is going to take from BLM when they establish this

I would like DOE to be more specific. I also

question the risk assessments that DOE is

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER STATE OF NEVADA) SS: COUNTY OF CLARK.) I, Deborah Ann Hines, certified shorthand reporter, do hereby certify that I took down in shorthand (Stenotype) all of the proceedings had in the before-entitled matter at the time and place indicated; and that thereafter said shorthand notes were transcribed into typewriting at and under my direction and supervision and the foregoing transcript constitutes a full, true and accurate record of the proceedings had. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my hand this 3rd day of June, 2004.	
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	Deborah Ann Hines, CCR #473	